# BRIDGEPORT NOT ALONE IN COUNTY

Many Other Communities Have Suffered Because Their Paving Contracts Were Not Open to Competitive Bidders and Patented Processes Were Favored.

EXPERTS SAY PRICE OF 90 CENTS IS FAIR

Bridgeport Taxpayers Must Pay Much More Because Mayor Has Experienced Startling Change of Heart As to Competition When the Money of the Taxpayer is Involved.

The excuse offered by the politi-clans who have promoted the anor-mous contracts in Warrenite pave-ment is, that it is a patented pavement, which is true, and that it is the best pavement, which is untrue. Warrenite is well known to public

Warrenite is well known to public officers over a large part of this country. Repeatedly its entrance into a community has been followed by a scandal, like that in Bridgeport, after public officers have been seized with a blind, and unaccountable infatuation for this particular pavement.

The investigation of highway matters in New York state, which was followed by indictments, threw some light upon Warrenite methods in that commonwealth.

The New Jersey investigation disclosed some of the reasons why New Jersey authorities engaged in spending highway money, fell blindly in love with this patented article.

After considering engagedly the

After considering carefully the evidence with respect to the relations between public officers and the companies making patented pavements, the New Jerney committee said:

"We think there is enough in the record taken by the committee to justify the panion of the public prosecutor and grand jury of Essex."

I would see sat the youthful clerk who yesterday was poor but now possesses a fortune estimated at between \$25,-000 and \$50,000 through the accidental death of an aged grandmother in Springfield, Mass, Springfield, Ma

and the whole thing is crooked and

After probing the dirty paving mess in New York state, the New York legislature found this dictum of Commissioner Gillen so true, that it declared it to be against public policy for any public authority to specify a patented pavement, in any call for paving bids. If such pavements should compete, it must be in open bidding with other pavements.

The New Jersey committee reached this identical conclusion, saying:
"The law must be amended so as to exclude patented or proprietary pavements except in open price competi-tion, with pavements of the same gen-eral type, and in other respects, free competition in the interest of the public must be assured.

The very principle herein stated was the one held by Mayor Wilson, when he first took office. In his first when he first took office. In his first message, while the desire to serve the BAILEY AND JUDGE people was presumably still strong in his mind, he departed from the general tenor of his message to declare that he would never except in a very urgent case, waive the obligation of bids and open competition in (Continued on Page Two)

### JURY WILL GET BARNES' LIBEL **ACTION TODAY**

Syracuse, May 20-The jury sitting in the trial of William Barnes' suit for libel against Theodore Roosevelt will probably have the case in its hands before night.

Before beginning to sum up for the plaintiff, William M. Ivins, chief counsel for Mr. Barnes, announced that he planned to conclude during the forenoon session of court.

Following Mr. Ivins, Justice Ivins was to deliver his charge. This, it said, would require about an hour and then the jury was to begin its de-

Mr. Ivins began his address promptly upon the opening of court. The room was more crowded than ever before, seats being placed in the aisles for the accommodation of the spectators. There were nearly as

Mr. Ivins criticised Mr. Bowers for delving into politics.
"What," asked Mr. Ivins, "has the future usefulness of this defendant

even of this plaintiff got to do with this action at law?" Attorney Ivins concluded his address to the jury by assalling the for-mer president as being the real posor of a "Jekyll-Hyde personality" instead of Mr. Barnes.

### WEATHER FORECAST

Increasing cloudiness tonight, Friday rain; moderate north to northeast winds.

WHY HAS MAYOR WILSON CHANGED HIS IDEAS OF

COMPETITIVE BIDDING?

I believe that all work, except such as is extremely urgent. should be advertised for, as required by ordinance, and awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, and that the waiver of the mayor should not be requested except in great emergencies-From Mayor Clifford B. Wilson's first message

### SODA CLERK, HEIR TO FORTUNE, FINDS **NEW POPULARITY**

Pretty Girls Swarm About Fountain Where Fortunate Youth Is Employed.

Yesterday it was "Give Me a Cher-

When Commissioner Gillen came to Notification came through Springfield

Burgoyne, though little acquainted with his maternal grandmother, and thinking less of ever receiving a for-tune through her demise, ascertained been accustomed to go from her kitohen into another room by one door Through an oversight for the first time in many years she recently attempted to go through another with the result that a serious fall resulted in a paralytic stroke and death. Burgoyne was the sole heir to properties which will not be settled under the Massachusetts laws for two years but which are estimated to be worth close to \$50,000. He has worked as a soda-

Today he told friends: 'I have some time to consider what I shall do with the money. I shall continue working for a while."

elerk for nearly three years in this

# IN WARM TILT IN RIGGS BANK CASE

Former Senator, Counsel for Bank, Sharply Rebuked For Remark to Court.

Washington, May 20-Arguments in the Riggs Bank injunction suit against Secretary McAdoo and Comptroller Williams started off in the district counsel for the bank, and Justice Mc- ed the Charities department,

Senator Bailey was arguing for the relations with the bank. Justice McCoy interrupted to say he had already ruled it would be admitted and that further argument only took time, that life was not worth living and he "Your Honor has taken more time drew a pen-knife across his throat

Your remarks are highly improper," returned the justice. "Please un- to Lakeview home. Owing to the that distinctly. Another remark of that kind and some other counsel will argue this case."

Mr. Balley tossed his papers to the table and, turning away, replied: "If the court feels that way about it, I will withdraw from this case now." "Do as you please about that," retorted the judge, "but don't make such a remark again."

Several of the bank's lawyers surrounded Senator Bailey and after some conference he said to the court: "I feel that I owe to my clients a duty higher than any I owe to myself.

the argument." ou have said from my mind."

# TWO IMPERILED IN FLAMES FROM GAS FLARE-BACK

Civil War Veteran Enters Burning Home And Is Overcome.

MAN AWAKES WITH FIRE UNDER BED

Upper Floor of Arctic Street Tenement Is Swept By Fire.

Two persons had narrow escapes from death this forenoon when the upper section of the four family building at 428-36 Arctic street was partially gutted by fire due to flare-back of a gas stove which for cleanliness had een set upon paper.

Frank P. Somers, a veteran of the civil war, who had been attracted into the house by the excitement, was nearly overcome by the smoke. He was carried from the house by members of

George V. Filewood, a plane tuner, sleep in an attic room directly over the flames, was awakened by the fire ating through the floor and burning the matting beneath his couch. He managed to grope from the smokefilled room.

George Hall, orchestra leader at the American theatre on East Main street, who was first to discover the flames, which then enveloped the kitchen and were spreading through the ceiling and dining-room of the Somers apartsmash the glass key-covering on the alarm box at the corner of East Main and Arctic streets when turning in the slarm. His injuries were later attended by a local physician. Damage estimated at about \$150 by

thief Mooney was done the building. It is owned by the Jennings estate. Damage to furniture and fixtures burned and destroyed by chemicals is estimated by the Somers family at over \$200. It is partially covered by

The fire originated when Mrs. File-wood tried to light a gas stove in the and beside which was a box of matches and an open closet containing a quartity of clothing. She noticed a ffare-back but relit the jet and went about other housework. In a few min-utes the room was like a furnace, Rall

### TEACHERS PREPARE PROTEST TO MERIT SYSTEM USED HERE

Claim is Made That It Is Not Just Annual Meeting is Held.

The annual meeting of the Bridgeport Teachers' association was held at 4:15 o'clock this afternoon in the assembly hall of the Bridgeport High Although the election of officers is the business of the meeting, it was expected the merit system, recently installed in the local schools, would be discussed.

Resolutions protesting the system as unfair are expected to be drawn and adopted. They will be mailed to the members of the board of ed-ucation, or presented by a committee,

according to plans that have been It is explained by the teachers that they do not object to a merit sysbut they do object to this particular merit system because they do

#### Tubercular Patient Who Slashed Throat Is Sent To Norwich

Michael Penda, believed to belong supreme court today with a clash be-tween former Senator Bailey, chief be a charge on Bridgeport, has caus-Mr. Bailey threatened to with- Shelton sanatorium, the Bridgeport draw from the case and Justice Mc. hospital and Lakeview home authori-Coy threatened to refuse to hear the ties much trouble since his attempt to commit suicide by cutting his throat at the sanatorium three weeks admissibility of an affidavit regarding ago. It has been decided to remain admissibility of an affidavit regarding him to the Norwich hospital for the ago. It has been decided to remove insane though he needs care as a consumptive.

Penda, in the sanatorium, decided than I intended to take for what I inflicting but little injury before was intended to say," replied Mr. Bai-disarmed. He was taken to Bridgeport hospital where he remained until last week. Then he was removed communicable nature of his disease Superintendent Gordon decided that he should be sent back to the sana-

> The heads of that institution refused to entertain such a dangerously inclined guest and his sanity was then questioned. At was decided today that he should be taken to Norwich. WHITE SLAVER IS

SENT TO JAIL FOR

TERM OF 5 MONTHS

Charged with forcing Mary Marino the man wanted here. He had been Therefore, I will remain and continue to lead an immoral life, Vito Maniero employed by the same music publishof this city was sentenced to jail for ing house as had been Stern, and five months by Judge Case in the when reaching Reading had been rewhereupon the argument proceed- the city court. He pleaded guilty identical but the men are of far different appearance and personality.

# MESSAGE AS PARLIAMENT ON TRIAL AS GERMAN SPY. **ALLEGED AMERICAN HANGS**

Anton Kuepferle, Claiming a Residence in Brooklyn, Writes Message, Admitting His Service in Kaiser's Army-Took Life, He Wrote, Rather Than Die on the Gallows As a Spy.

HIMSELF IN LONDON JAIL

London, May 20-Anton Kuepferle, who claimed to be an American citizen who once lived in Brooklyn and who has been on trial charged with giving military information to the enemies of Great Britain, committed suicide by hanging last night in Brixton Prison.

Kuepferle left a message written on a slate bearing testimony to the fairness of his trial. He also confessed he was a soldier, and he wished to die a soldier and declared he could not bear to mount the scaffeld as a spy.

for the resumption of the trial, the night the night patrol officer, a warment, sustained deep lacerations of attorney-general, Lord Reading, anthe right hand when he attempted to nounced the death of the prisoner to

the judges. "Since the rise of this court last," Brixton prison. He was in a spe-cial observation cell under practically ing clear of the floor. Warden Cook cut the scarf and summoned the priopportunity of taking his own life." Chief Warden Cook, who is in charge of the prison, produced the slate on which the prisoner had written his message. His communication follows:

"To whom it may concern: My name is Knepferle and I was born in Rastatt, in Baden. I am a soldier with a rank I do not desire to men-tion. I can say I have had a fair trial in the United Kingdom but I am

On the other side of the slate the man had written, "I was born June in Old Bailey in camera, "in the in-

TO REFER BOND

sion Government. Incin-

erator and Bridges.

make the mayor change his mind be-

tween now and Saturday. He was

Washington avenue bridge bonds;"

Causes Pleasant But

"Al Stern," captured by the Penn-

sylvania police and located in jail

at Reading, Pa., is not the Albert

Stern wanted in this city for the

theft of a violin from Miss Florence

Richardson, a cabaret performer. Detective Sergeant Edward Cronan,

who applied yesterday for requisition

arrested by the police there was not

\$'220,000 Grand street bridge bonds."

Salesmen's Rivalry

in Hartford to-day.

ple time to vote.

When court opened this morning | Warden Cook has testified that last den named Perry, came to him and said, "I cannot see the prisoner." Warden Cook immediately and, opening the cell door, he found the prisoner hanging by the neck the attorney-general said, "this man from a ventilator in a corner behind Kuepferle, has committed suicide in the door. He had used a silk scarf

"ITALY WILL ENTER WAR TODAY,"

warm but he could not be revived.

The trial of Anton Kuepferle be gan Tuesday at the Old Balley police court before Lord Chief Justice Red-The proceedings were public and the courtroom was crowded. The charge against the prisoner was that he attempted to communicate to Ger-many information respecting British warships and military forces. The prosecution was conducted by the at-

torney general. It was charged that he was a German spy. \* about other housework. In a few minutes the room was like a furnace. Hall as a furnace and investigated. He is take the law in my own hands. I have fought many a battle and death is the only saviour for me. I would be prefer death by shooting but I do not wish to ascend the scaffold as (here a small dark room where he was results as a furnace. Hall take the law in my own hands. I have fought many a battle and death is the only saviour for me. I would prefer death by shooting but I do not wish to ascend the scaffold as (here the letter appeared on its face to be the letter appeared on its face to be the letter appeared on its face to be the letter appeared to many loss. When Commissioner Gillen came to the department of highways in New-ark he found the paving ring in complete control of the city.

As a result of his investigations he reached the conclusion, to use his larguage before the committee, that "where patented pavements are spectrum of the pavements are spectrum of the department of highways in New-ark he found the paving ring in complete the freedy months to the street. It was after the arrival of the firemen that Filewood was a spectrum of this universe will lead me in the conclusion. Kueptakened. None knew of his predication at the prisoner drew a Masonic symbol) and I hope the Almighty architecture of this universe will lead me in the conclusion. Kueptakened. None knew of his predication came through Springfield attorneys on Tuesday, who did "not cued by his family and carried back to the prisoner drew a Masonic symbol) and I hope the Almighty architecture of this universe will lead me in the firemen that Filewood was any language before the committee, that where patented pavements are spectrum. The committee of the street. It was after the arrival of the firemen that Filewood was a soldier. I can meet a spy but as a soldier. I can meet my of this universe will lead me in the firemen that Filewood was a spy but as a soldier. I can meet the prisoner drew a Masonic symbol and I hope the Almighty architecture of this universe will lead me in the firemen that Filewood was a spy but as a soldier. I can meet a spy but as a soldier. I can meet the prisoner drew a Masonic symbol and I hope the Almighty architecture of this universe will lead me in the firemen that Filewood was a spy but as a soldier. I can meet the prisoner drew a Masonic symbol and I hope the Almighty architecture of this universe will lead me in the firemen that Filewood was a spy but as a soldier. I can meet the prisoner drew a masonic symbol and I hope the Almighty architecture of this universe will have been a supplied to the city.

I have the prisoner drew a Masonic symbol and I hope the Almighty ar ly that my uncle, Ambrose Droll, of resulted in his arrest he gave his Rastatt, be notified of my death. I home address as 1665 De Kalb avedesire that all my estate go to him.
What I have done was for my country. I express my thanks and may the Lord bless you all.

Inome address as 1665 be Rain avenue. Brooklyn. He represented himself to be a woolen merchant. From Liverpool he went to Dublin and then to London where he was arrestthen to London where he was arrested on Feb. 16.

His hearing was resumed yesterday terests of the national safety.'

### LABOR SLIGHTED BY LEGISLATURE. **QUESTIONS** TO PEOPLE IN JUNE STREMLAU SAYS

Special Voting on Commis- Head of State Federation Calls Last Session Most Reactionary in Years.

The special election to vote on com-Meriden, May 20 .- Julius C. Stremlau, president of the Connecticut Fedmission form of government and the proposed incineration plant, East eration of Labor, and a member of the General Assembly of 1913; today BLOCKADE HAS COST Washington avenue bridge and Grand declared that in his opinion and opinstreet bridge bonds probably will be ion of those identified with the held Saturday, June 12. Although movement in the state, the legislature Mayor Wilson has not formally an-nounced the date he has decided on just ended was "the most reactionary in many years from the viewpoint of News has received a despatch from ing there is continuous. June 12 and the election will be held the workingmen.' that day unless some thing occurs to

He said, in a formal statement:
"I do not recall any session in my experience with legislatures that was much opposed to labor interests. Under the Home Rule act by which | There was no constructive labor legisthe election is held, the vote must be lation this year, such as was hoped taken not less than 60 days after the for by organized labor to gradually the passage of the referendum measures improve the condition of the working nor more than 90 days afterward. man and his family. Sanitation and Consequently, the vote must be ta-ken on or before June 19. The "At the start the make-up of "At the start the make-up of the mayor prefers June 12 and has se-labor committee was a big set-back. lected Saturday so that those who The members of the committee seemhave a half holiday will have am- ed to have no interest in the advancement of the working class. With The bond issues will come first on the exception of Representative Marthe machine in this order: "\$200,000 tin Gorman, of Danbury, the commitincinerator bonds: .. "\$130,000 East tee members were not residents of the industrial centers and were not in touch with labor interests enough to impartially judge the merits of the bills introduced in behalf of labor. Other committees fared better in the personnel of their members."

In reviewing legislation Mr. Strem-Fruitless Journey lau said that organized labor deplored most the consolidation of the bureau of labor statistics and the office factory inspector and the result, in his opinion, would be to nullify benefits heretofore received by the working

"However," said Mr. Stremlan, "we are not discouraged and organized labor will work harder than ever to papers in Pennsylvania was greatly condition of the workingman. surprised to find upon arrival in Reading yesterday that the man THERE'S A RING AROUND

An unusually well defined and brilprediction is for rain.

Berlin Gets Report That Immediate Declaration of Hostilities is Contemplated—Minister of War Granted Full Powers—Rome Rejects Eleventh Hour Proposals of Austria Regarding Territorial Concessions.

Amsterdam, Holland, May 20-"No one in Italy any longer doubts that war begins today," is the text of a telegram sent from Chiasso, Switzerland, under date of Thursday (today) and printed in the Berliner Tageblatt.

Full Powers For War Minister

Paris, May 20-Reports have been received here from Rome that the Italian chamber of deputies by virtue of a unanimous vote, today granted full powers to the minister of war.

Austrian Proposals Are Rejected

Rome, May 20-Unless plans of prominent deputies miscarry, the only speaker at the session of the chamber tomorrow (Thursday) after the communication from the government is received, will be Signor Barzilai, a Republican deputy, who will plead for the liberation of Triest, his native city, from

It was learned today that the council of ministers at that protracted session, last night, unanimously rejected at the eleventh hour, proposals made for Austria for prolonging the negotiations regarding the cession of territory.

## **ENGLAND IS CHEERED AS COALITION GOVERNMENT PROJECT IS HASTENED**

England for the past few days, following the receipt of war news regarded marines have been lost since March as unfavorable, was checked today by 18, the day of the commencement the definite appouncement of the de- of the submarine blockade. cision of the government to form a coalition cabinet, together with news from the eastern front.

It is believed here that the Rus

sians' advance near Shavil, in Couriand, where the line of the forces of Emperor Nicholas have been straightened out, will do much to counteract the effect of the Austro-German ad- in the North Sea on May 3, that vesvance in the vicinity of Przemysl, sel had been destroyed by a torpedo. across the river San.

danger and that Grand Duke Nicholas. commander-in-chief of the Russian forces in the field, is playing his usual strategic game of drawing the enemy away from his base. Reports from Athens set forth tha

the allies have occupied the Turkish position of Killid Bahr on the European side of the straits and opposite Chanek. Occupation took place after the nosition had been reduced by a bom-

bardment of the fleet. On the western front the only indications of activity is the continuance of artillery duels. The Italian parliament meets to-day, It is generally felt that the momentous decision of war or peace can hardly be postponed beyond this sitting, although reports are current that Austria has increased the concessions she is willing o make in order to insure Italian neutrality.

The German press, while admitting that war with Italy can hardly be headquarters, has sent in a despatch, avoided, views the prospect calmly, reading as follows: the opinion even expressed that Austria, because of the Italian attack, may peace with Russia, a course which probably would result in the release pate a big battle in the near future. of more German troops for service on the western frontier.

GERMANS 17 SUBMARINES, growing smaller."

London, May 20-The Evening

London, May 20.—The wave of de- its Copenhagen correspondent saying ression which has been sweeping the report is current in German naval circles that seventeen German

EXPERTS SAY TORPEDO HIT NORWEGIAN VESSELL

Christiania, Norway, May 20pert testimony was given at a naval investigation today into the sinking of the Norwegian steamer America The witnesses said that the place in The military writers in the morning which the America was struck and newspapers claim that only one out of the action of the explosion proved 14 Russian armies has been in deadly she had not been blown up by a

> FRENCH LAND TROOPS FOR GALLIPOLI BATTLES.

Paris, May 20-French troops have been landed at Seddul Bahr, at the southern tip of the Gallipoli peninsula and on the European side of the Dardanelles, and are now moving around the Turkish positions at Krithia, according to a despatch received. by the Grecian newspaper Messager D'Athens, from Mudrose, Lemnos Island. This information was received today by the Havas News Agency from

REINFORCEMENTS HELP ATISTRIANS HOLD TAXES

Berlin, May 20-The correspondent of the Lokal Anzeiger at Austrian field

"The Austrians have assembled reinforcements behind the river San compelled to make a separate and have made preparations for a The Teutonic allies already have gained several strong footholds on the Russian side of the river San and the ring around Przemysl steadily is

A correspondent at Czernawitz, of the same paper, telegraphs that fight

### BRIDGEPORT GETS NEXT CONVENTION OF MEDICAL ASSO.

Hartford, May 20-Departing from its custom since organization in 1792 Wilson's impressions of the Atlantic of holding alternate yearly meetings fleet which he reviewed at New York in New Haven and Hartford, the Con- early this week, were set forth in the recticut State Medical Society today following statement, issued at the voted to hold its annual meeting for White House to-day, on the Presi-1916 in Bridgeport, the third Wednesday and Thursday in May. The semiannual meeting will be held in Middle-

sex county, place not decided.

These officers were elected: President, Dr. Max Mailhouse, New Haven; vice-presidents, Dr. C. B. Graves, New London; Dr. C. A. Sears, Portland; secretary, Dr. Marvin M. Scarborough, New Haven; treasurer, Dr. Joseph H. Townsend, New Haven.

#### CARNEGIE IS INVITED TO SCOTCH CONCERT

Compensation Commissioner E. elect men who will try to improve the Buckingham has invited Andrew Carnegie to preside at a "Scotch Concert" S A RING AROUND to be given in Olivet Congregational church on the evening of May 27th.

THE SUN; RAIN COMING.

and bagpipe selections. The majority of the artists participating in this concert will be of Scotch cloud. The popular saying is that a gymnasium in the hall for boys and The weather girls; also to provide a circulating li-

### PRESIDENT HAPPY OVER SUCCESS OF BIG NAVY REVIEW

dent's return:

"I was greatly struck with the appearance of the fleet and quiet effi-ciency shown by the officers and men as I am sure everyone must have been who had the pleasure of seeing it assembled at New York. There was no more interesting verification of Admiral Dewey's statement that the navy was never in a better or more efficient condition and that the country not only has every reason to proud of it but every reason to wish to go forward in its policy of steadily adding to its strength and equip-

### SUBMARINE SINKS ANOTHER TRAWLER

"and that will lead me to dismiss what "and that will lea miles off Kinnaird's Head in the North Sea yesterday.